

Chairs of the Appropriations Committee Senators Osten and Formica and Representative Walker and Committee Members,

My name is Christina Avino. I can only begin to describe how valuable the Plainville Family Resource Network is to the children I care for every day. The continued funding of this program is well worth the money spent. My name is Christina Avino and I am not a parent, but when I am, I hope the Plainville Family Resource Network is there to offer my children a high-quality learning environment that prepares them for preschool. What I am is a nanny with ten years of professional experience and a degree in early childhood education. I care for a family with three children. The twins who are two years old attend the Plainville Family Resource Network play and learn group regularly. One of the twins receives birth to three for developmental delays and I could not imagine where we would be without the support and resources provided by the Plainville Family Resource Network. I watched him go from running around the room in circles for the entire morning to sitting and playing trucks with another child for 20 minutes. The children have been able to explore arts, science and sensory, dramatic play, reading, and much more in a developmentally appropriate and inclusive environment. The environment provided by the Plainville Family Resource Network promotes the development of meaningful relationships for many families in our community as the children benefit by the meeting children who will continue to attend school with them through their entire education. The teachers at the Plainville Family Resource Network have supported me personally by giving me ideas for home activities, found resources in the community to improve the quality of care that I am able to give, and offer parent education that benefits me as a nanny as well.

Thank you to the chairs of the Appropriations Committee and Committee Members,

Children are the future and eliminating the funding for this program would be devastating to the learning and development to the children in our community.

Sincerely,

Christina Avino

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